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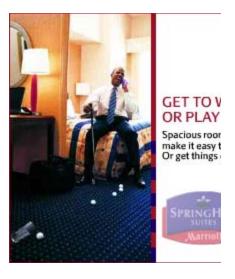
Ban of small vest-piercing pistol sought

N.J.'s two senators said the gun had no legitimate public use.

By Donna De La Cruz **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON - The Five-SeveN pistol is small enough to fit in a pocket, but it packs a big punch: Its bullets can penetrate a bulletproof vest.

One of the guns was taken from an alleged drug dealer in Camden County in December, and now federal out of the hands of the public for good.



lawmakers from New Jersey and New York want them

Sens. Jon Corzine and Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey and Sen. Chuck Schumer and Rep. Elio York, all Democrats, yesterday introduced a bill that would make it illegal for anyone except a poli military official to possess the pistol.

In November, the Homeland Security Department issued an "Officer Safety Alert" calling the pisto defeating handgun." The alert said police in Trumbull, Conn., had seized such a pistol and noted were "advertised as being able to penetrate 48 layers of Kevlar at 50 meters."

The lawmakers said there was no legitimate reason, such as hunting, for members of the public to

"This is not a Second Amendment issue," Corzine said. "Who needs one of these? The only reas violence."

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The Protect Law Enforcement Armor Act also would prohibit the gun and bullets from being made States.

Camden County Prosecutor Vincent P. Sarubbi urged lawmakers to support the bill, calling it a te

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"If we let this one slip by, the floodgates will open," he said.

The Five-SeveN found in Camden County had been bought in Philadelphia using a false name at Security number, Sarubbi said.

Peter Newsham, assistant chief of the Washington Metropolitan Police, said the gun had penetral in a department test.

"The danger of this gun is that it can be concealed," he said. He, too, urged Congress to support

Michael Barnes, president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, challenged the Natio Association to defend the pistol, even daring NRA chief executive Wayne LaPierre to don a bullet have the pistol tested. The NRA did not immediately return a telephone call for comment.

The pistol is made by the Belgian company FN Herstal, which has a U.S. division in McLean, Va. director of sales and marketing for the U.S. division, said that the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Toba Firearms had approved the pistol and that the only ammunition available to the public were cartric the agency.

The bullets that can penetrate Kevlar vests are sold only to law enforcement and military agencie ammunition is released and shipped only from a U.S. Customs-controlled warehouse, DeMilt saic

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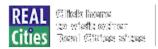
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